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16 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

17 **NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

18 **IN RE GOOGLE PLAY STORE** ) Case No. 3:21-md-02981-JD  
19 **ANTITRUST LITIGATION** )  
20 THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO: ) **NON-PARTY SPOTIFY'S**  
21 ) **ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION TO**  
22 ) **SEAL PORTIONS OF EXHIBIT 1496**  
23 *Epic Games, Inc. v. Google LLC, No. 3:20-cv-* )  
24 05671-JD ) Judge: Hon. James Donato  
25 )  
26 )  
27 )  
28 )

1 Pursuant to Local Civil Rules 7-11 and 79-5 and this Court’s Minute Order dated  
 2 October 31, 2023 (ECF No. 727), Non-Party Spotify USA Inc. (“Spotify”) respectfully moves the  
 3 Court to seal limited portions of Exhibit 1496, which Spotify understands will be used in Court on  
 4 November 15 during the testimony of Don Harrison. Exhibit 1496 contains non-public  
 5 information relating to Spotify’s confidential negotiations with Google leading to the execution of  
 6 Spotify’s User Choice Billing agreement with Google. That agreement and the related  
 7 negotiations—which lasted for several years and took up hundreds of hours of Spotify personnel  
 8 time—are highly confidential and commercially sensitive, and Spotify would be competitively  
 9 harmed in its business by the disclosure of information relating to those negotiations through any  
 10 public filing.

11           Although there is a presumptive right of public access to court records on common  
 12 law and First Amendment grounds, such “access . . . is not absolute,” *Kamakana v. City and Cnty.*  
 13 *of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d 1172, 1178 (9th Cir. 2006), and may be denied by the Court to protect  
 14 confidential information. *See Phillips ex rel. Estates of Byrd v. General Motors Corp.*, 307 F.3d  
 15 1206, 1212 (9th Cir. 2002). Trial records may be sealed if a party or non-party “articulate[s]  
 16 compelling reasons . . . that outweigh the general history of access and the public policies favoring  
 17 disclosure.” *Kamakana*, 447 F.3d at 1178–79. “In general, ‘compelling reasons’ sufficient to  
 18 outweigh the public’s interest in disclosure and justify sealing court records exist when such ‘court  
 19 files might have become a vehicle for improper purposes,’ such as the use of records to . . . release  
 20 trade secrets.” *Id.* at 1179 (quoting *Nixon v. Warner Commc’ns, Inc.*, 435 U.S. 589, 598 (1978)).  
 21 Moreover, Spotify is not a party to this action and did not voluntarily invoke the Court’s  
 22 jurisdiction; it only produced the information it seeks to seal because the parties demanded it by  
 23 invoking the Court’s subpoena power. As a result, Spotify’s confidentiality interests should be  
 24 entitled to special consideration. *See, e.g., Hunt v. Cont’l Cas. Co.*, 2015 WL 5355398, at \*2 (N.D.  
 25 Cal. Sept. 14, 2015) (sealing information “implicat[ing] important privacy concerns of nonparties  
 26 . . . that outweigh the public’s interest in disclosure of these judicial records”).

27           The “compelling reasons” standard is met here because Exhibit 1496 reveals  
 28 specific commercial terms proposed by Spotify in connection with confidential negotiations

1 regarding Spotify's use of Google Play Billing. The competitive harm that Spotify would suffer  
2 if information relating to its negotiation of the User Choice Billing agreement becomes public is  
3 described in the Declaration of Sandra Alzetta, filed in this action on November 7, 2023 (MDL  
4 Dkt. No. 749-1). Because Exhibit 1496 reveals the exact same type of commercially sensitive  
5 information relating to the same negotiations between Spotify and Google, Exhibit 1496 should  
6 be sealed for the same reasons laid out in Ms. Alzetta's November 7 Declaration and Spotify's  
7 accompanying Motion to Seal Portions of Deposition of Sandra Alzetta and Exhibits Thereto  
8 (MDL Dkt. No. 749).

9 For these reasons, Spotify respectfully requests that the Court grant this Motion and  
10 enter the Proposed Order submitted herewith.

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12 Dated: November 13, 2023

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